WGN-AM, February 11, 2008

(WGN-AM) - Two Chicago area Congressmen want to give the Social Security card a makeover. They say the aim is cutting down on identity theft.

Republicans Mark Kirk and Peter Roskam are introducing legislation that would do away with the current paper card, and replace it with a plastic ID that contains a magnetic strip, bar code, microchip, and picture.

"If we move to this system, a senior can say, 'Look, did you get this card with this picture and this chip and this data on it?" Kirk said at a Chicago news conference. "If you don't have that, then you need to correct my credit record right now," Kirk said.

The new card would cost \$8 to produce, compared to 50-cents for the current card.